GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:131
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2000
THEFT OF COAL
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large scale theft of coal from the Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. and other subsidiaries of CoalIndia Ltd. during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected so far;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct an inquiry into the nexus between the officials and the thieves; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI N.T.SHANMUGAM)

(a) & (b): A statement of the quantity of coal stolen from the mines of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL),other subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) and North Eastern Coalfields (NEC), a unit of CIL in comparison tothe coal production and the number of coal theft cases detected during the last three years is given below:-

	CIL including MCL & NEC			MCL		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Quantity of coal stolen	0.011 3	0.016 5	0.0044 096	0.000 44	0.0001 21	0.0003
(In million tonnes) Production of coal (In million tonnes)	261.0 1	256.4 9	260.69	42.16	43.51	43.55
Percentage of quantity of coal stolen to coal production	0.004 %	0.006 %	0.002% 3%	0.0002 3%	0.0003 4%	0.0007
Number of coal theft cases detected.	746	3203	192	32	33	54

(c): No investigation into any specific incident of nexus between the officials of coal companies and the miscreants in coal theft is pending in the Ministry of Coal and therefore, no inquiry is being currently conducted. Monthly review meetings with district authorities are being held by the subsidiary companies of CIL for drawing out plans to eliminate the menace and carrying out surprise checks/raids in cooperation with the State Police at sensitive points and lodging of FIRs withthe local police. There is a security infrastructure of the subsidiary companies of CIL comprising of personnel belonging to company security, hired private security guards, State armed police/home guards and Central Industrial Security Force who are entrusted with the security of individual coal mines.

(d): Does not arise in view of the answer to part (c) of the question.